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Item 61 (b) of the provisional agenda*
United Nations reform: measures and proposals: the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations

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Letter dated 7 September 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward the statement of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia of 5 September 2000 (see annex). I should be grateful if you would have it circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61 (b), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/55/150 and Corr.1 and 2.

00-63633 (E) 120900

Annex to the letter dated 7 September 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

STATEMENT
OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia lodges the strongest protest at the official decision of the Secretariat of the United Nations to withdraw the invitation to the delegation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to participate in the forthcoming Millennium Summit in New York from 6 to 8 September which was extended to the President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, as early as 25 August last year.

At the same time, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia condemns most strongly this act of the Secretariat of the United Nations which occurred at the very beginning of the Millennium Summit at the time when the Yugoslav delegation, headed by the President of the Federal Government, Mr. Momir Bulatovic, was about to leave for New York to conduct talks with numerous highest-ranking representatives of the member-States at the time of the Millennium Summit.

The explanation that the invitation to the Summit was extended "in error" is completely unacceptable to the Yugoslav Government and it resolutely rejects it. Such an act of the Secretariat of the United Nations represents an unrecorded precedent in the history of the United Nations and is in full contravention with the goals and principles of the Charter and practice of the United Nations. What is involved is discrimination against a country, a founder and a member-State of the United Nations, the true aim of which is to deny Yugoslavia, in an illegitimate and undignified way, the possibility to present its positions on the region in which it plays an important part of a factor of peace and stability, international relations and on the role of the world Organization. Unfortunately, this is only yet another expression and consequence of the haughty and arrogant policy of the host country of the United Nations which already a few days ago rejected to issue visas to the leaders of the Yugoslav delegation to the jubilee Conference of the Inter-parliamentary Union in New York. All this shows that the world Organization and the largest gathering of the democratically elected representatives of all peoples are being manipulated, all for the purpose of realizing the hegemonist policy of that country. It is evident that there exists a fear from the truth, from the responsibility for last year's aggression of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, for causing huge human casualties, for the suffering of the citizens of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, enormous economic destruction and for a systematic violation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) in the Serbian province of Kosovo and Metohija.

If that practice were to be allowed and legalized, it would lead to a further erosion of the basic postulates of the Charter of the United Nations, particularly of the principles of equality and the sovereign equality and universality of the United Nations. At the same time, it would deal a blow to the democratic foundations, reputation and authority of the world Organization which have been created painfully over the last half a century and to which Yugoslavia has made its contribution.

The gross and illegal act represents also an insult to the vast majority of the member-States of the United Nations which set store by consistent respect for the Charter, principles and goals of the organization and for international law and therefore calls for their strongest condemnation. The Federal Government therefore calls on all member-States of the United Nations to resolutely reject all attempts to do away with the democratic principles, openness and universality on which the system of the United Nations is rested and to condemn the policy of pressure and fait accompli, the aim of which is to establish diktat over the world Organization.

Irrespective of this last shameful act, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will continue to pledge its support to open and equitable cooperation with all countries of the world also in the future and is ready to render its contribution, as a founder and a member-State of the United Nations, to putting an end to attempts to erode the United Nations and to the launching of a new trend of the strengthening of its influence and democratic nature as an open and universal international organization. In order to achieve that goal to which aspires the majority of mankind the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia considers that it is necessary that member-States join efforts in a resolute opposition to the practice and principles that harm the reputation and influence of the world Organization, particularly to all attempts to violate the Charter of the United Nations and the decisions of the Security Council.

Belgrade, 5 September 2000

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I have the honour to forward the message of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the Millennium Summit of the United Nations (see annex). I should be grateful if you would have it circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61 (b), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/55/150 and Corr.1 and 2.

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MESSAGE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE MILLENNIUM SUMMIT OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The Millennium Summit of the United Nations is one of the most representative political gatherings in the history of international relations. It provides a unique opportunity to reaffirm all that has proved itself good and successful in the activity of the world Organization so far, as well as to identify the new challenges facing mankind at the threshold of the new millennium. The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia considers that only by joint efforts of all member-States it is possible to ensure that the 21st century be stable, prosperous and just for all peoples of the world. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as a founding State of the United Nations, will continue to render its contribution to a faster and more efficient realization of these noble goals and, for that purpose, is ready to cooperate openly and equitably with all States and peoples sharing this approach to the future of the world.

The expectations with which mankind looks at the change of the two millennia are conditioned not only by the rarity of the event, but also by a profound feeling that the preceding epoch as a whole has resulted in the triumph of human mind and skills, which contributed to overall progress.

Great hopes and expectations, however, have been blurred by a singular paradox in which the world suddenly found itself. The epochal technological progress and the realization of the undreamed-of possibilities of development have not been followed by appropriate transformations in the political and social superstructure. On the one hand, we have been witness to an unstoppable current of the process of integration, accelerated by new technologies and the improvement of the means of communication. On the other, sovereign countries are being broken up, precisely those countries that, by their multi-ethnic and multi-cultural being constitute the most natural basis for broader integrations.

Following the end of the so-called Cold War, international relations have not developed in the direction of progress and democratization, but of the suppression of equality and the strengthening of tendencies of hegemonism and unipolarity. The balance of fear has not been replaced by equitable cooperation and development, but by a doctrine of interventionism, limited sovereignty, which brought about the weakening of the influence and the erosion of the reputation of the world Organization. Instead of developing itself according to the criteria of tested values and principles, the civilization is overshadowed by the threat of the use of force - military and economic-financial. This has, in essence, resulted in having the rich becoming richer and the poor becoming poorer. Neo-colonialism is being advanced under the aegis of the so-called globalization and the control of the richest over the strategic sources of energy, raw materials and the market spread.

This development has caused disastrous consequences. The first casualty have been the unassailable principles of international law, such as sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs of States, sovereign equality of States and the right to free and unhindered development. The aggression of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia last year outside and against the will of the Security Council is the greatest threat to the future of the United Nations and international law in general and constitutes a crime against peace and humanity. Although committed against a small country, the NATO aggression had global goals: to set a precedent and legalize military interventions contrary to the Charter of the United Nations; to have NATO, as a typical regional organization, impose itself upon the United Nations and to have might impose itself upon the right; to demonstrate the domination of the United States of America in Europe and ensure its role of world policeman; to threaten peace and stability in Europe. The NATO aggression caused directly thousands of civilian casualties and material destruction in excess of US$100 billion, which the perpetrators must make up for.

In this way NATO has discredited and presented itself as a danger for Europe, Asia and the world. The same factors that spearheaded the aggression are continuing it now by other means: economic sanctions, support for separatism in Kosovo and Metohija and the Republic of Montenegro, spreading disinformation through their media and engaging in subversive activities against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. This discredits them further as enemies of peace and stability and allies of separatism and terrorism from Taiwan to Gilbraltar, from Tierra del Fuego to Cape of Good Hope.

Illegal military interventions and collective punishments of nations through the imposition of one-sided illegal economic and political sanctions have become also a typical instrument in the drive to bring about blind servility to one centre of power. Sanctions constitute the most massive form of violation of human rights today. More than one half of mankind, primarily the poorer one, is under various forms of sanctions imposed illegally by the richest countries.

Yugoslavia is, no doubt, a victim of hegemonism, interventionism and the neo-colonialist concept of NATO, spearheaded by the United States of America. By incitement to separatism, the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was broken up by force. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the country that continued its international legal personality, was the first to have sanctions imposed, its people were made to suffer and the incitement to separatism and terrorism in its territoy was continued. It was blackmailed by the so-called "Rambouillet Agreement" and finally, in 1999, NATO committed an armed aggression. Rambouillet was a classic case of ultimatum, the acceptance of which would have meant the occupation of the country and the hand-over of the fate of the people and the country to the foreigner, to NATO in this particular case. It is quite clear now that what the United States administration had prepared behind the backs of its partners would not be acceptable to any sovereign country in the world.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is duty-bound to warn also on this occasion that the problems in the province of Kosovo and Metohija have been created through a systematic violation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), cooperation of UNMIK and KFOR with Albanian separatists and terrorists, the violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and through the ethnic cleansing of Serbs, Montenegrins, Muslims, Roma, Goranci, Turks and Egyptians. This threatens not only the vital interests of Yugoslavia, but also of the entire region of the Balkans and Europe.

Under the auspices of international forces (KFOR and UNMIK) over 5 000 terrorist attacks have been committed in the 14 months, primarily against the Serbs, over 1 100 persons were killed, about 1 000 abducted and over 360 000 non-Albanians were expelled. UNMIK and KFOR have thus brought grist to the mill to the concept of "Greater Albania", which threatens peace and stability in the entire Balkans and amounts to attempts to dangerously involve the world Organization in a policy diametrically opposed to the goals of the United Nations. The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has therefore requested the United Nations Security Council to terminate the mandate of UNMIK and KFOR, directly responsible for the violation of resolution 1244 (1999), expansion of terrorism, international organized crime, massive destruction of cultural monuments, violation of basic human rights, for chaos and general lawlessness. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has carried out all its obligations from Security Council resolution 1244. It has prepared a contingent of military and police personnel for highly-professional engagement and insists on its immediate deployment in the Province in accordance with the said Security Council resolution.

The solution in Kosovo and Metohija - an autonomy with equality of all residents and ethnic communities within Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - is possible to reach only through dialogue between representatives of all ethnic communities and the State. All this indicates that certain powers and groups devise technology for provoking the so-called "controlled" destabilizations, even regional conflicts. Overt incitement to separatism and terrorism, therefore, by protagonists of the doctrine of a unipolar world in order to destabilize sovereign States constitutes one of the greatest threats to peace and stability on our planet.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia pledges its support to building a system of international peace and security on the basis of democratic principles and equality of all countries and peoples. In that system, there must be no domineering centres of power and decision-making, either one or many. It should be based on unity of diversity, on equitable and free use of all possibilities for achieving progress, on mutual cooperation and comprehending the world as a whole in which equal rights of all are respected. Yugoslavia is for a world of the equal, for the United Nations which is a true guarantor of international peace and security, for a world of democracy and equality of all, for the freedom of choice.

This vision calls for the following:

- clear and strong affirmation and respect of the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law;

- reform of the United Nations, with an emphasis on the crucial role of the Security Council and its primary responsibility for peace and security;

- opposition to all attempts to establish exclusive groups and clubs, the activity of which diminishes the role and influence of the world Organization;

- respect for the right to a free choice of the road of one's own, without pressure and interference in internal affairs, as well as full sovereignty over economic and other interests of every country;

- disarmament and equal security for all, as well as opposition to the one-sided strengthening of military potentials of individual States.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is firm in its openness and equitable cooperation with all countries that are in favour of peace, stability and the honouring of the Charter of the United Nations and for respect for vital interests of all countries and peoples. Affirming itself in a large number of countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America, as a reliable partner with rich experience, technology and first-class professionals in various fields of human activity, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is ready to intensify its efforts, in cooperation with the United Nations, other specialized international organizations and the Governments of those countries, to bring about general progress.

The defence of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from NATO has been a universal achievement of the freedom-loving world and an encouragement to all countries and peoples aspiring to freedom, equality and progress. In order to safeguard and enrich the achievement, to transpose it into the world of freedom and progress for all and not only for a privileged minority, it is necessary that, by joint efforts, we strengthen the United Nations and pretect its prestige and authority from the onslaught of might, arrogance and the uniformity of thought.